

Notes on Contributors

Michael S. Adelberg has been researching the American Revolution in New Jersey for twenty-five years. He has published the award-winning *The American Revolution in Monmouth County*, the well-reviewed historical fiction book, *The Razing of Tinton Falls*, two reference books, and essays published in leading scholarly journals like *The Journal of Military History* and *The Journal of the Early Republic*. He's earned distinctions from the New Jersey Historical Commission (101 Great New Jersey Books), the Monmouth County government (Jane Clayton Award), and the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars (recognition in *The Wilson Quarterly*). A New Jersey native, Adelberg now lives in Virginia with his wife and sons.

Bruce A. Bendler earned his Ph.D. at the University of Delaware in 2000 where his dissertation examined political culture in Delaware during the Revolutionary era, focusing on the emergence of the Federalists as the state's dominant party with the emergence of the First Party System in the 1790s. Bendler is a frequent contributor to *Delaware History*, the journal of the Delaware Historical Society, and has also been published in *New Jersey History*. He has written articles for the Salem County (New Jersey) Historical Society, the Historical Society of Cecil County (Maryland), and two chapters for a history of Newark, Delaware. He teaches courses on colonial, revolutionary, and Civil War history at the University of Delaware.

Todd W. Braisted has authored numerous journal articles and books on the American Revolution. He is a Fellow of the Company of Military Historians, honorary vice president of the United Empire Loyalist Association of Canada and a past-president of the Bergen County Historical Society. He has appeared as a guest historian on such programs as *History Detectives*

and *Who Do You Think You Are*. A lifelong resident of Bergen County, he currently lives in Mahwah with his wife Susan.

James J. Gigantino II earned his PhD from the University of Georgia in 2010. He is currently an Assistant Professor of History at the University of Arkansas. In 2010, he received the Alfred E. Driscoll Prize from the New Jersey Historical Commission for his dissertation on slavery in New Jersey. His book, *The Ragged Road to Abolition: Slavery and Freedom in New Jersey, 1775-1865*, was published by the University of Pennsylvania Press in 2014.

William L. Kidder is a retired history teacher who taught for thirty-nine years in Ewing Township and at The Hun School of Princeton. A veteran of the US Navy, in the 1980s he was the lead researcher and writer for the Admiral Arleigh Burke National Destroyermen's Museum aboard the USS Joseph P. Kennedy, Jr. For the past twenty-five years he has been a volunteer interpreter and historian for the Howell Living History Farm (part of the Mercer County Park System) located in the Pleasant Valley section of Hopewell Township. He has published *The Pleasant Valley School Story: A Story of Education and Community in Rural New Jersey*, which won the 2013 scholarship and artistry award of the Country School Association of America and *A People Harassed and Exhausted*, which retells the experiences of the militiamen of the First Hunterdon regiment in the American Revolution.

Eleanor H. McConnell teaches American history at Frostburg State University in western Maryland where she studies the economic, legal, and social history of the colonial and early national periods. She received her PhD from the University of Iowa in 2008.

Robert A. Selig is an independent historian with a PhD in History from the Universität Würzburg in Germany. His area of expertise is the role of French troops under the *comte de Rochambeau* in the American war between 1780 and 1782. He serves as historical consultant and project historian to the National Park Service for the Washington-Rochambeau Revolutionary Route National Historic Trail (W3R-NHT) project. In August 2011, the French government honored his research on the contributions and role of France in the American War of Independence by awarding *l'ordre des palmes académiques*.

Donald Sherblom, a resident of Annandale, NJ earned a Ph.D. in Political Science from the New School for Social Research in New York City. He has taught at the City University of New York, Seton Hall University, and Cedar Crest College in Allentown PA. Dr. Sherblom is president of the 1759 Vought House, A Revolutionary War Loyalist Homestead, a non-profit organized to acquire and preserve what will be New Jersey's only loyalist museum and educational center. In 2011, he published *Neighbors at War, The Vought Family and the Revolution* to increase public awareness of the rich history of the Vought house and has given a series of lectures on the Revolution and divided loyalties in New Jersey.

Gregory F. Walsh received his PhD in American history from Boston College in 2011. His research on the American Revolution challenges the simple dichotomy that divides the Revolutionary War population into either Patriots or Loyalists and examines fluctuations in popular commitment to both Whig ideology and the war effort. He is the recipient of the 2012 Alfred E. Driscoll Prize from the New Jersey Historical Commission and currently serves as the chair of the Liberal Arts Department at Marian Court College in Swampscott, Massachusetts